

AUTHORIZING SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO IMPROVE CALIFORNIA'S SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA AND WATER SUPPLY

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6014) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, to improve California's Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and water supply, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 6014

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CALIFORNIA DELTA SUBVENTION.

(a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, shall deposit within 30 days of receipt, all funds under this Act into the Fund established by Cal. Water Code section 12300(a), to be used for project reimbursement under Cal. Water Code section 12300(b)(1), as in effect before July 1, 2006.

(b) **ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.**—The Bureau of Reclamation may use not more than 1 percent of appropriated funds to cover administrative and overhead costs.

(c) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2012. Any amounts expended under this subsection shall be considered to be non-reimbursable Federal expenditures.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 6014, sponsored by Resources Committee Chairman RICHARD POMBO, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to assist in protecting and improving California's Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The delta is one of the most flood-prone areas in the world and is currently protected by a series of deteriorating 80-year earthen levees. After Hurricane Katrina, we all know the devastating effects of levee failures. The funding in this bill helps prevent future failures that could have far-reaching impacts on the entire State of California. It is simply an ounce of prevention for a pound of cure.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill. I urge support for this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. KIND asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I too support this very worthy legislation here tonight. I encourage its adoption.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6014, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NEW MEXICO WATER PLANNING ASSISTANCE ACT

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1711) to provide assistance to the State of New Mexico for the development of comprehensive State water plans, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1711

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "New Mexico Water Planning Assistance Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **SECRETARY.**—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation and the United States Geological Survey.

(2) **STATE.**—The term "State" means the State of New Mexico.

SEC. 3. COMPREHENSIVE WATER PLAN ASSISTANCE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Upon the request of the Governor of the State and subject to subsections (b) through (f), the Secretary shall—

(1) provide to the State technical assistance and grants for the development of comprehensive State water plans;

(2) conduct water resources mapping in the State; and

(3) conduct a comprehensive study of groundwater resources (including potable, brackish, and saline water resources) in the State to assess the quantity, quality, and interaction of groundwater and surface water resources.

(b) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—Technical assistance provided under subsection (a) may include—

(1) acquisition of hydrologic data, groundwater characterization, database development, and data distribution;

(2) expansion of climate, surface water, and groundwater monitoring networks;

(3) assessment of existing water resources, surface water storage, and groundwater storage potential;

(4) numerical analysis and modeling necessary to provide an integrated understanding of water resources and water management options;

(5) participation in State planning forums and planning groups;

(6) coordination of Federal water management planning efforts;

(7) technical review of data, models, planning scenarios, and water plans developed by the State; and

(8) provision of scientific and technical specialists to support State and local activities.

(c) **ALLOCATION.**—In providing grants under subsection (a), the Secretary shall, subject to the availability of appropriations, allocate—

(1) \$5,000,000 to develop hydrologic models and acquire associated equipment for the

New Mexico Rio Grande main stem sections and Rios Pueblo de Taos and Hondo, Rios Nambé, Pojoaque and Tesesque, Rio Chama, and Lower Rio Grande tributaries;

(2) \$1,500,000 to complete the hydrographic survey development of hydrologic models and acquire associated equipment for the San Juan River and tributaries;

(3) \$1,000,000 to complete the hydrographic survey development of hydrologic models and acquire associated equipment for Southwest New Mexico, including the Animas Basin, the Gila River, and tributaries;

(4) \$4,500,000 for statewide digital orthophotography mapping; and

(5) such sums as are necessary to carry out additional projects consistent with subsection (b).

(d) **COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The non-Federal share of the total cost of any activity carried out using a grant provided under subsection (a) shall be 50 percent.

(2) **FORM OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.**—The non-Federal share under paragraph (1) may be in the form of any in-kind services that the Secretary determines would contribute substantially toward the conduct and completion of the activity assisted.

(e) **NON-REIMBURSABLE BASIS.**—Any assistance or grants provided to the State under this Act shall be made on a non-reimbursable basis.

(f) **AUTHORIZED TRANSFERS.**—On request of the State, the Secretary shall directly transfer to 1 or more Federal agencies any amounts made available to the State to carry out this Act.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2010.

SEC. 5. SUNSET OF AUTHORITY.

The authority of the Secretary to carry out any provisions of this Act shall terminate 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1711, sponsored by Congresswoman HEATHER WILSON, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to assist the State of New Mexico in developing comprehensive water plans.

New Mexico is experiencing record drought, and limited Federal assistance will help provide a water-use roadmap to overcome this and future droughts. This legislation specifically authorizes water resources mapping assistance in the State and allows for a comprehensive study of New Mexico's groundwater resources to assess the quantity and quality of the groundwater. Ultimately, the State and local entities will make the water-use decisions, but this bill helps provide the scientific data needed to make such decisions.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.